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REVIEWS.

The Historical Development of Modern Europe from the Congress of Vienna to the Present Time. By CHARLES M. ANDREWS, Associate Professor of History in Bryn Mawr College. Vol. II, 1850-1897. Pp. vii, 467. Price, \$2.50. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1898.

The sterling worth of the first volume of Professor Andrews' history of modern Europe has been emphasized in a former number of the ANNALS.* The second and concluding volume covers the period since 1850. The author has from the first chosen to confine himself strictly to the political development, and in this second volume he adheres to his plan with almost startling consistency, giving scant attention to even the constitutional innovations. The military events, for example, which occupy a good deal of space in the conventional political histories, are reduced to microscopic proportions in the work before us, not, the author says, because he objects to drum-and-trumpet history, but because he believes "that the details of battles and the movements of troops belong except in their consequences to the student of military strategy." A line and a half is given to Sadowa, scarce two lines to Sedan, and but three pages to the whole Franco-Prussian war—which would seem to prove beyond a peradventure that the writer possesses the courage of his convictions.

Professor Andrews has put a second and somewhat unusual form of constraint upon himself by refusing to insert in his work any merely personal judgments. A clear statement of occurrences and an interpretation of their true bearings seem to him to exhaust the duties of the modern historian. He had, of course, to face the eternal problem of attributing to heroic personality and to seemingly inevitable tendency each its proper influence in the momentous changes between 1850 and 1871. While giving the greatest prominence to the ascendancy of Cavour and Bismarck and to the ambition of Napoleon III., Dr. Andrews clearly shows that the events of 1859, 1866 and 1870 were after all the logical outcome of the earlier period. Were this not so, the genius of these statesmen, however conspicuous, could never have accomplished what it did. It would, moreover, as every thoughtful student of the past will readily concede, be reckless to assert "that the establishment of the Kingdom of Italy, the German Empire and the third French Republic would have been rendered impossible had other men directed the course of affairs."

* Vol. ix, p. 253. March, 1897.

After describing the unification of Germany and of Italy, the history of the Second Empire and the establishment of the dual monarchy of Austria and Hungary, Dr. Andrews devotes the last third of his volume—we may presume reluctantly—to the changes since 1871. The historian has a well-founded suspicion of so-called contemporaneous history, which is necessarily half prognostication, for it is only by forecasting the future that the important and permanent can be distinguished from the trifling excitements of an Argus-eyed daily press. But both public and publishers agree that modern history ends only with the very minute when the historian dispatches his manuscript to press. Dr. Andrews has good-humoredly yielded to their wishes and given us an excellent outline of the political events down to last March, not only in western Europe, but in Russia and the Balkan Peninsula.

While the author's careful exclusion of the irrelevant will rob the past of some of its chief attractions for the natural man, who has an inveterate *penchant* for soul-stirring combat and odds and ends of gossip, and while the scholar, who cares not for gore or gossip, may lament the absence of foot-notes, among which he might poke about for suggestions, there is, it may be hoped, a considerable class of serious-minded readers in this country and England who will appreciate and enjoy Dr. Andrews' impartial, clear and painstaking account of one great phase of Europe's past.

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Life and Administration of Sir Robert Eden. By BERNARD C. STEINER, Ph. D. Pp. 142. Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science. Series XVI, Nos. 7, 8, 9. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1898.

Recently several historical students have turned their attention to a careful and detailed study of the transition from colonial to commonwealth government in some one of the thirteen original states that composed the American Union. As a result several excellent monographs have appeared. One of the latest of these is the above cited volume of Professor Steiner. With almost equal propriety this study might have been entitled "The Transition of Maryland from a Proprietary Colony to a Commonwealth," inasmuch as Sir Robert Eden was the last Proprietary Governor of Maryland, his administration spanning the stirring period 1768 to 1776. The author however has intentionally limited himself to the treatment "of the end of the old, not of the beginning of the new."